

NEBRASKA SUPREME COURT



Office of Public Information

Contact: Janice Walker | (402) 471-3730 | www.supremecourt.ne.gov

June 1, 2009

SECOND AMENDED PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Judicial Resources Commission will hold a public hearing pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 24-1204 to determine and discuss the following:

(1) Whether, based on the judicial workload statistics, a judicial vacancy exists in the office of county judge of the 12th Judicial District, due to the retirement of the Honorable James Hansen, effective June 1, 2009, and make a recommendation to the Supreme Court as to the principal place of office of said vacancy.

(2) The May 20, 2009, letter from District Judge Randall L. Rehmeier of the 2nd Judicial District regarding transferring the judgeship from the county court of the 12th Judicial District to the district court of the 2nd Judicial District.

(3) The May 20, 2009, letter from County Judge Jeffrey J. Funke of the 2nd Judicial District asking to be considered for an additional county judgeship in the 2nd Judicial District when such opportunity arises.

(4) The May 21, 2009, letter from Juvenile Judge Douglas F. Johnson of the Separate Juvenile Court for Douglas County regarding transferring the judgeship from the county court of the 12th Judicial District to the Separate Juvenile Court for Douglas County.

(5) The May 22, 2009, letter from County Judge Susan I. Strong of the 3rd Judicial District and attached memorandum stating that "It appears from the statistics provided that the 12th District's caseload requires 4.72 judges and that Judge Hansen's position should be refilled in that district. However, should you come to a different conclusion, we respectfully submit that we have the greatest need for an additional judge here in Lancaster County."

The hearing is scheduled for Monday, June 8, 2009, at 10:00 a.m., central time. The hearing will be held via video conferencing from the State Capitol Building, Room 1507, Lincoln, Nebraska, and will include participation from the Panhandle Learning

Continued...

Center, 4502 Ave. I, High Plains Room, Scottsbluff, Nebraska; from the State Office Building, Room 207, Second Floor, 1313 Farnam Street, Omaha, Nebraska; from the Hastings Public Library, Second Floor, 517 West 4th Street, Hastings, Nebraska; and from the Chadron State College, Scottsbluff Room in the Student Center, 10th and Main Streets, Chadron, Nebraska.

The Commission makes its determination based on weighted caseloads, adequate access to the courts by litigants, population, judicial duties, travel time and other factors necessary to assure efficiency and service of the court system.

Following the hearing, the commission will make a recommendation to the Legislature of their determination.

Commission members are:

Supreme Court Justice Michael McCormack, Chairperson	
Alan L. Brodbeck, O'Neill	Steven F. Mattoon, Sidney
Robert B. O'Neal, Papillion	Riko E. Bishop, Lincoln
Thomas F. Hoarty, Omaha	Ronald Furse, Aurora
Jolanda J. Kuzma, Lincoln	Nicole R. Neesen, Omaha
Jane Morgan, Gordon	Mark M. Sipple, Columbus
Gerald E. Moran, Omaha	Robert J. Parker, Hastings
Margie A. Smith, Bellevue	Patricia McQuillan, Greeley
Sharlon Rodgers, Omaha	D. Paul Hartnett, Bellevue

Any member of the public is entitled to attend the Nebraska Judicial Resources Commission hearing in Room 1507 of the State Capitol, Lincoln, Nebraska, and present, either orally or in writing, any pertinent information with regard to any item on the agenda.

For special accommodations relating to the Americans with Disabilities Act, please call (402) 471-3730. For persons with hearing impairments, please call the Nebraska Relay System at 711.

#

Janice K. Walker, State Court Administrator
Administrative Office of the Courts | P. O. Box 98910 | Lincoln, NE 68509-8910